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## Upcoming Events

### **Women's Forum Jewish Museum Event: June 23, 2005**

The Women's Forum in New York will visit the Jewish Museum to view a special exhibit, *The Power of Conversation: Jewish Women and Their Salons*, which examines the significant role played by the salons of Jewish women in the development of art, literature, music, theater, philosophy, and politics in Europe and America from the late 18th century through the 1940s. The event, organized by Elizabeth Kessenides, will include a dinner for women attorneys and summer associates in the New York office.

### **The 2005 Annual Road Show Reception: June 27, 2005**

Covington & Burling is again a sponsor of the Road Show Reception, which celebrates law firm practice in the nation's capital from an African-American perspective. This year, the event will be held at Ortanique restaurant and will feature guest speaker Wilma A. Lewis, former United States Attorney for the District of Columbia.

### **Women's Forum Professional Development Seminar: July 7, 2005**

The Women's Forum will sponsor a professional development seminar conducted by Rebecca Diaz-Bonilla, who teaches oral advocacy at the University of Virginia law school. Professor Diaz-Bonilla is trained in the fields of law and acting and has worked with many groups at the firm. This particular program will concentrate on advocacy skills for litigators and non-litigators, focusing on the particular challenges facing many women attorneys. The program is part of an ongoing professional development effort sponsored by the Women's Forum. The Women's Forum has held meetings in the other offices on this subject and in London, an outside speaker has been engaged to develop programs focusing on business and professional development.

### **First Annual Bay Area Diversity Career Fair: August 12-14, 2005**

San Francisco associate Deanna Kwong will be attending the First Annual Bay Area Diversity Career Fair, an event sponsored by the Bar Association of San Francisco. The event provides the opportunity for law firms and legal departments truly committed to diversity to review the applications of interested law students and select candidates to be interviewed for summer associate positions.

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## Recent Events

### **National South Asian Bar Association Convention: June 17-18, 2005**

The D.C. Chapter of the South Asian Bar Association hosted this year's National South Asian Bar Association ("NASABA") Convention, which was held at the Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill on June 17-18, 2005. D.C. associates Probir Mehta and Hrishi Karthikeyan were among the planners for the Convention, and Stuart Irvin, Of Counsel in the D.C. office, participated as a panelist. Covington & Burling was a Silver Sponsor of the 2005 NASABA Convention. Click [here](#) to visit the convention's website.

### **D.C. Minority Attorney Networking Series: June 9, 2005**

The D.C. Minority Attorney Networking Series hosted an event featuring Judge Ricardo M. Urbina, of the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. Covington & Burling is a sponsor of the Networking Series, a recently formed group whose mission is to provide minority attorneys an opportunity to focus on professional development, to network, and to build alliances and form relationships with peers, partners and colleagues practicing law in the DC Metro area. The group's inaugural event featured Debra L. Lee, President and COO of Black Entertainment Television (BET).

### **Women's Bar Association of DC (WBA) Annual Awards Dinner: May 17, 2005**

Covington & Burling attorneys attended the WBA's awards dinner honoring 2005 Woman Lawyer of the Year Judge Noel Anketell Kramer of the D.C. Superior Court. Covington was a Patron-level supporter of the event, which featured remarks by Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison of Texas and Marie Wilson, President of The White House Project, an initiative that encourages, recruits, and trains women to run for elective office, including the Presidency. Click [here](#) to visit WBA's DC website.

If you have an event to be included in the next issue of Diversity Update, please contact [Lauren Soroka](#).

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## Public Service

### **Human Rights Campaign: Federal and State Legislation**

David Remes, Jimmy Kirby, Paul Ainsworth, David Stetson, and Lauren Soroka are advising the Human Rights Campaign, the largest gay and lesbian organization in the United States, in connection with federal and state legislative issues.

If you have public service information to be included in the next issue of Diversity Update, please contact [Ariadna Vazquez](#).

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## Professional Activities

### **Asian Pacific American Bar Association (“APABA”) of the Greater Washington, DC Area**

Congratulations to D.C. associate Robert Wone, the new President-Elect of APABA-DC. As Treasurer of APABA, Robert coordinated the judicial clerkship program the last two years for area law schools in conjunction with other local minority bar associations. Covington & Burling has supported this program by donating graphic design services, duplicating services, and meeting space. Robert is also an active member of APABA’s Judicial Nominations and Endorsements Committee. Click [here](#) to visit APABA’s website.

### **South Asian Bar Association of Washington, D.C. (“SABA-DC”)**

D.C. associate Probir Mehta has served two years as a Director on the SABA-DC Board. Hrishi Karthikeyan has also served for two years on the Board, both as a Director and as Vice President. In addition to coordinating professional and social activities to serve the South Asian American legal community in Washington, D.C., Probir and Hrishi were heavily involved in planning the organization’s Second Annual National Convention, held in Washington on June 17-18, 2005. Click [here](#) to visit SABA-DC’s website.

If you have professional activities information to be included in the next issue of Diversity Update, please contact [Hrishi Karthikeyan](#).

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## C&B Committees

### **Diversity Committee and Summer Program: Sponsored Dinners**

The Diversity Committee, headed by Michael Labson and Linda Goldstein, in conjunction with the Summer Program, is sponsoring small group dinners aimed at fostering a greater sense of community among our attorneys and introducing summer associates to the many diverse lawyers in the firm. Tom Williamson and his wife Shelley Brazier hosted a dinner for African-American attorneys at their home in Washington; Juan Estrada and Ariadna Vazquez hosted a dinner for Hispanic attorneys at Oyamel; Reenah Kim hosted a dinner for Asian American and South Asian American attorneys at Ceiba; and the firm’s lesbian, gay, and bisexual attorneys hosted a welcome dinner at Dupont Grille. The highlight of the dinner series is the Diversity Committee Reception at Rosa Mexicano on June 23, 2005.

## **Women's Forum: Lunch Meetings**

The Women's Forum is led by Lee Tiedrich in Washington, Ellen Corenswet in New York, Wendy Feng in San Francisco, Louise Nash and Anne Ware in London, and Jetty Tielemans in Brussels. The Women's Forum in DC is hosting lunch meetings at which senior firm lawyers or outside speakers describe their career paths and some of the challenges they have faced in the workplace. On June 8, 2005, Joanne Grossman, Marialuisa Gallozzi, and Ginny Watkin discussed their practices, including some of their career triumphs and challenges. Christine Enemark moderated a discussion, led by associates Melody Wu, Lisa Green, and Jenny Silverman, on business development strategies and opportunities. The Women's Forum in New York recently hosted a lunch meeting to get input from summer associates on the ways women lawyers at Covington & Burling could be helpful to women law students.

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### **Covington & Burling Diversity Committee**

*Michael Labson, Co-Chairperson*

*Linda Goldstein, Co-Chairperson*

*Lanny Breuer, Chris Burke, Kurt Calia, Benoit Charriere-Bournazel, Ben Duke, Murad Kalam, Hrishikesh Karthikeyan, Jimmy Kirby, Ruben Kraiem, Deanna Kwong, Ben Lenhart, Jamaal Lesane, Andrea Reister, Paul Schmidt, Lauren Soroka, Siobhan Stewart, Phyllis Thompson, Lee Tiedrich, Ariadna Vazquez, Jean Veta, Robert Wone*

The Committee welcomes feedback and comments on our inaugural edition of Diversity Update. Please contact [Mike Labson](#) or [Linda Goldstein](#) if you have suggestions for future editions.